[*Translation*]

Arrears of Excise duty Against Big Industries

3785. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of big industries against whom excise duty amounting to Rupees one crore or more in outstanding; and

(b) the progress made in recovering this amount during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) There are 161 industrial units against whom excise duty amounting to Rs. 1 Crore or more is outstanding.

(b) The outstanding amounts are mostly linked with Court cases and cases before Customs, Excise and Gold Control Appellate Tribunal and other quasi-judicial authorities and recoveries have been stayed. However, the amounts of Central Excise arrears recovered during the last three years are as under;

		(Rs. in crores)
1.	1988-89	137.28 approx.
2.	1989-90	122.35 approx.
4.	1990-91	141.98 approx.

Raids Conduced In Mertropolitan Cities for Recovery of Customs Duty

3786. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids conducted in the metropolitan cities during the last three years to unearth the cases of customs duty evasion ;

(b) the outcome thereof ; and

(c) the amount of customs duty recovered and the number of persons prosecuted ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF . FINANCE (SHRI. RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Long Term Cotton Policy

3787. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a long term cotton policy ; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Government's endeavour is to provide remunerative prices to the cotton growers and to make cotton available to the domestic textile industry in adequate quantity and at reasonable prices. As the production of cotton is subject to the vagaries of weather conditions, it is not possible to make a long term forecast on these aspects.

[*English*]

Indo-US Trade Relations

3788. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: